

Sir

Philadelphia March 27. 1767

There are, I am informed, Six Hand employed in blowing Glass; at first there were but two, who instructed the Rest. The two first Workmen were taken in as Partners by the Person who found Stock, and set up the Business, the others are Servants, therefore there are no Workmen to be engag'd here for you. They work seven Month's in the Year, and 'tis said make 20 Pounds worth of Glass per Diem. The Furnace is made of Bricks of white Clay, and renew'd every Blast. The old Bricks are Pound'd fine & mixed with fresh Clay to make the new. The Pots are made of Clay found here; they are made by the Workmen, and often fail. Cotton Stone might possibly be of Service. The Furnace is about 12 foot long, 8 wide, 6 high, has no Grate, the Fire being made on its Floor. Cramers is a Furnace for Experiments only; therefore small. Its Grate melts not because of the fierce Draught of cold Air continually puffing between the Bars. On each Side in the Furnace is a Benik or Bank of the same Materials with the Furnace, on which the Pots of Metal stand, 3 or 4 of a Side. I think the likeliest Way to get good Workmen from England, would be to invite them into Partnership. I suppose the Works might be compleated ready to go on, in a few Month's. In England they get Salt by burning Kelp and Fern; they also buy foreign Potash. Our Works are now going, and as you propose to visit them this Spring, you will then have such an Opportunity of satisfying your self in every Thing you want to know, as makes a more particular Answer to your Queries at this Time unnecessary. The Glass house is about 35 Miles beyond the City. I shall be glad to see you here, and am, with Respect to good Mr Noyes & Family, Sir.

Your humble Servt

P. Franklin

Please to give the enclosed with
my humble Service, to W^r President Clap

From
Benj Franklin

paid

To
Thomas Darling
New Haven

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To

W Thomas Darling
at the Rev Mr Noyes's in

From
Benj Franklin

New Haven

This letter was received
by Dr. J. S. Darling

Crossed
July 10th 1782